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| 10/756,897 | 01/14/2004 | James O. Gilkerson | 279.214US3 | 3622 |
| 45458 7590 01/15/2010 SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG & WOESSNER/BSC-CRM PO BOX 2938 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402 | | | | |
| EXAMINER GETZOW, SCOTT M | | | | |
| ART UNIT 3762 | | PAPER NUMBER | | |
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/756,897

Applicant(s)

GILKERSON ET AL.

Examiner

Scott M. Getzow

Art Unit

3762

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 November 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 25-47 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 25-47 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SI/22)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/13/09

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. Claims 25-33,36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lu (5,591,214).

Lu is considered to encompass all of the subject matter of the above claims. For example, column 1 of Lu teaches that the blanking periods are typically adjustable programmable parameters. Figure 1a of Lu shows the various blanking periods that can be programmed. Figure 4 also shows programmed blanking settings. Column 5:60+ teach that calculations can be done in the IMD, or in a programmer. Re claims 27,28 and similar claims, the terms 'disable' and discard' are considered to be broad enough terms to describe the functioning of the Lu device when it blanks the cross channel signals. Re claim 32, clearly different blanking intervals can be used to handle the various situations described in column 1 of Lu. Re claim 33, the device of Lu can be programmed with an external programmer. Re claim 36, leads are clearly shown in figure 1 for example.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. Claims 34,35,37-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lu (5,591,214).

Re claim 37, to use a memory with instructions is considered to be obvious in that typical modern pacemakers use software stored in a memory in order to execute instructions, and to have such explicitly done in Lu would not result in an unpredictable operability. Re 34,35,46,47, to use a noise window is considered to be obvious in light

of the skill of ordinary artisan to prevent noise from being sensed as a legitimate signal, and the teaching of using a noise window in column 5 of Lu. Further, the patent to Wickham (5,891,171), mentioned in prior office actions, also shows the commonality of using a noise window. Further, the device of Lu is considered to come from the factory with a preset blanking setting, which can then be modified according to the teachings of the patent to Lu. Re claims 38-45, see comments above re similar claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Scott M. Getzow whose telephone number is (571) 272-4946. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Angela Sykes can be reached on (571) 272-4955. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Scott M. Getzow/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3762